INFORMATION LETTER

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Food Chemical Code

Since the passage of the Food Additives Amendment to the Food and Drug Act, the Food Protection Committee of the National Research Council has been laying the groundwork for a publication which could serve as a reference on chemicals to be used in food. The publication is to be known as the "Food Chemical Codex" and is to be the responsibility of a special chemistry committee. Frank Lamb of the N.C.A. Berkeley Laboratory has been appointed a member of that committee.

Canners To Be Surveyed on Wage-Hour Exemptions

A questionnaire concerning the use of exemptions from the wage and hour requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act will be mailed to all canners within the next two weeks by the USDA.

Public Law 87-30, which was enacted earlier this year by the Congress, directs the Secretary of Labor to "study the complicated system of exemptions now available for the handling and processing of agricultural products under such Act and particularly sections 7(b)(3), 7(c), and 13(a)(10), and . . . submit to the second session of the eighty-seventh Congress . . . a special report containing the results of such study and information, data and recommendations for further legislation designed to simplify and remove the inequities in the application of such exemptions."

At the request of the Secretary of Labor, the USDA has agreed to conduct the survey and to make the summary results available to both industry and government. Replies from individual canners will be kept in confidence by the USDA. Although compliance with the government's request is not mandatory, N.C.A. President John C. Hemingway and Legislative Committee Chairman Luke F. Beckman urge all canners who receive the questionnaire to fill it out and return it promptly to the USDA.

The statistical summaries resulting from this survey may be important to all canners in connection with future wage-hour legislation. In an effort to make the survey as meaningful as possible, N.C.A. representatives have participated in meetings with government officials at which the scope and nature of the questionnaire was discussed. Several state canners associations were also consulted by the N.C.A. in order to obtain their reactions to the proposed questionnaire.

Senator Holland To Be Guest Speaker at 1962 Canners Convention

Senator Spessard L. Holland of Florida has accepted the invitation of President John C. Hemingway to be principal guest speaker at the N.C.A. Annual Meeting, opening the 1962 Canners Convention, Monday morning, January 22, at the Americana Hotel in Bal Harbour, Fla.

He has been in the Senate some 15 years and has considerable seniority on its Committee on Agriculture and Forestry and also on the Committee on Appropriations. "During this period Senator Holland has displayed knowledge of the canning industry's contribution to agriculture and the nation's economy, and in fact has taken leadership in behalf of the industry on many occasions in Senate consideration of legislation affecting canners, especially in connection with agricultural and wage proposals," said Mr. Hemingway.

A native of Bartow, Fla., in the heart of the citrus area, he was educated there and at Emory College (now Emory University) in Atlanta, where he was graduated with highest honors in 1912, and at the University of Florida, where he qualified for a Rhodes Scholarship and received his law degree in 1916.

The Senator practiced law in Bartow. During World War I he served with the U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps in all grades through captain, was in France as an aerial observer with the Army Air Corps, and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross in 1918. He was prosecuting attorney for Polk County, 1919-20, served two terms as Polk County judge, 1921-29, and in 1932 was elected to the Florida state senate and in 1941 was elected Governor, for a term of four years.

He was nominated for the U.S. Senate in May, 1946, and was appointed by Florida's Governor in 1946 to fill an unexpired term. He won election to full Senate terms in 1946, 1952, and 1958.

As a member of the majority of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Senator Holland ranks next after Chairman Allen Ellender (La.) and Senator Olin Johnston (S.C.) in seniority. He is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Agricultural Credit and Rural Electrification and also a member of the Subcommittee on Agricultural Production, Marketing and Stabilization.

Senator Holland also is a ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Chairman of the Subcommittee which handles funds for the Commerce Department.

1961 Pack of Canned Peas

The 1961 pack of canned green peas totaled 29,868,942 actual cases compared with the 1960 pack of 26,822,384 cases, according to a report by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

Although the 1961 pack is 11 percent larger than that of last year, the total supply available for the 1961-62 season is smaller than the supply on hand a year ago, because of the smaller carryover.

The total supply of canned peas in canners' hands, at 32.8 million cases, is 1⅛ percent below the total of 33.2 million cases on hand a year ago. With distributors' stocks on June 1 at the lowest level in a number of years,

the total supply of canned peas in the hands of canners and distributors combined is down 2 percent from a year ago.

	1958	1959	1960	1961
	(*millions of actual cases*)			
Carryover:				
Canners	8.5	9.7	6.4	2.9
Distributors	3.6	3.6	3.2	3.0
Pack	33.1	29.0	26.8	29.9
Total supply	45.2	42.3	36.4	35.8
Canner shipments	32.0	32.2	30.5	....

Following is a summary of canners' supply by geographic area and variety:

Region and Variety	1960	1961	Percent change from 1960
	(*thousands of cases*)		
Northeast:			
Sweets	910.8	788.0	−13
Middle Atlantic:			
Sweets	1,145.5	1,231.9	+ 8
Early June	422.7	419.3	− 1
Midwest:			
Sweets	17,804.0	19,691.1	+11
Early June	5,384.9	4,775.7	−11
West:			
Sweets	6,767.2	5,247.7	−22
Early June	812.7	637.7	−22

In the distribution of the pack in the various quality levels, a higher proportion is in Fancy grade this year than last.

Grade	1960	1961	1960	1961
	(*millions of cases*)		(*percent of pack*)	
Fancy	15.2	17.6	57	59
Ext. Std.	8.6	9.1	32	31
Standard	3.0	3.1	11	10

1961 Pack of Sweet Cherries

(N.C.A. Division of Statistics)

State	1960	1961
	(*actual cases*)	
Michigan	213,961	308,502
Northwest	425,627	897,408
California	300,083	481,829
Other states	40,257	16,690
U. S. Total	980,528	1,704,489

1961 Pack of Canned Apricots

(N.C.A. Division of Statistics)

State	1960	1961
	(*actual cases*)	
California	7,236,391	5,738,790
Other Western states	206,971	58,711
U. S. Total	7,443,362	5,797,501

Canners' Carryover Stocks of Apples and Applesauce

(N.C.A. Division of Statistics)

	Case basis	Carryover month	Supply 1959–60	Supply 1960–61	Canners' Stocks, Sept. 1 1960	Canners' Stocks, Sept. 1 1961	Season Shipments to Sept. 1 1960	Season Shipments to Sept. 1 1961
			(*thousands of cases*)					
Apples	6/10	Sept.	4,888	4,175	849	*622	4,039	3,553
Applesauce	actual	Sept.	19,235	19,726	2,156	*2,822	17,079	16,905

* Carryover from 1960 pack into 1961–62 season.

1961 Pack of Canned Peas by States and Variety

State	1960 Early June	1960 Sweet	1961 Early June	1961 Sweet
	(*actual cases*)			
New York	.....	737,838	.....	688,891
Middle Atlantic states	314,651	1,028,605	409,490	1,191,539
Wis., Ill., and Minn.	3,798,926	14,570,181	4,197,153	17,441,467
Other Midwest states	445,954	205,651	296,487	364,955
Wash. and Ore.	(a)	3,888,783	(a)	3,232,030
Other Western states	661,112	1,170,683	598,324	1,447,606
U. S. Total	5,220,643	21,601,741	5,503,454	24,366,488

(a) Included in "Other Western states."

Shipments of Metal Cans and Glass Containers, Jan.-July

(Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce)

Metal Cans

	Jan.-July cumulative 1960	Jan.-July cumulative 1961
	(*short tons of steel*)	
Fruit and fruit juices (including cans for fruit base still drinks sold as soft drinks)	373,815	368,934
Vegetable and vegetable juice	315,926	372,096
Meat, including poultry	83,371	89,408
Fish and sea food	74,730	75,997
Baby food, including formulas	24,474	21,038
All "other" foods, including soups	267,723	274,315

Glass Containers

	Jan.-July cumulative 1960	Jan.-July cumulative 1961
	(*thousands of gross*)	
Wide-mouth food (including fruit jars, jelly glasses, and packers' tumblers)	24,753	25,547
Narrow-neck food	9,136	9,431

Federal Crop Insurance

Federal crop insurance will be available in 1962 on 13 crops in a total of 991 counties. Crops on which insurance protection will be offered in 1962 include peaches and citrus. Others are barley, beans, cotton, corn, irrigated grain sorghum, oats, peanuts, rice, soybeans, tobacco, and wheat.

Under the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation program, farmers in counties where the insurance is available pay premiums for protection of designated crops against loss from causes beyond their control such as weather, insects, and disease.

USDA announced September 11 that the federal crop insurance will be available in 100 new counties.

USDA Potato Diversion

USDA announced September 8 a plan to assist potato growers in marketing the 1961 crop of potatoes, which is reported to be considerably in excess of market requirements. USDA plans to encourage diversion of potatoes to starch, flour, and feed.

The diversion program will be made available only in states or areas where the potato industry develops and submits to the Department an acceptable plan for utilizing the potato crop. Such plans will provide for supplying the market with at least the quality of potatoes listed below and withholding all others:

For round potato varieties: U. S. No. 2, minimum 2 inches in diameter, with at least 75 percent being of U. S. No. 1 quality.

For long potato varieties: U. S. No. 1, minimum 2 inches in diameter or 4 ounces in weight; and U. S. No. 2, minimum of 6 ounces in weight.

Payments will be made for diverting potatoes to starch, feed and flour.

Forthcoming Meetings

Sept. 23—N.C.A. and Florida Vegetable Canners Association, Sanitation and Processing Conference, Orlando

Sept. 25-26—N.C.A. and Florida Canners Association, Sanitation and Processing Conference, Winter Haven

Oct. 2—N.C.A. and Southwest Canners Association, Sanitation and Processing Conference, Hotel Adolphus, Dallas

Oct. 6—N.C.A. and Texas Canners Association, Sanitation and Processing Conference, Valley Chamber of Commerce Auditorium, Weslaco

Oct. 9-10—National Pickle Packers Association, Meeting, Drake Hotel, Chicago

Oct. 15-18—National Association of Food Chains, 23th Annual Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago

Oct. 19-21—Florida Canners Association, 30th Annual Convention, Diplomat Hotel, Hollywood by the Sea

Nov. 3-4—Florida Vegetable Canners Association, 3d Annual Convention, Deauville Hotel, Miami Beach

Nov. 13-14—Wisconsin Canners Association, 57th Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee

Nov. 13-15—Georgia Canners Association, Annual Convention, King & Prince Hotel, St. Simons Island

Nov. 13-15—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., 53rd Annual Meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, N.Y.

Nov. 15-17—Indiana Canners Association, Annual Convention, French Lick

Nov. 20-21—Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Fall Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids

Nov. 20-21—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 47th Annual Convention, Yorktowne Hotel, York

Nov. 27-28—Ohio Canners and Food Processors Association, 54th Annual Convention, Commodore Perry Hotel, Toledo

Dec. 4-5—Tri-State Packers Association, Annual Convention, Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia

Dec. 4-7—New York State Canners and Freezers Association, 76th Annual Convention, The Concord, Kiamesha Lake

Dec. 9-13—National Food Brokers Association, National Food Sales Conference, Chicago

Jan. 7-11—Super Market Institute, Mid-Year Conference, Americana Hotel, Bal Harbour, Fla.

Jan. 8-9—Northwest Canners and Freezers Association, Annual Convention, Olympic Hotel, Seattle

Jan. 10-12—Illinois Canners Association, Canners School, Urbana

Jan. 11-12—Canners League of California, 39th Annual Fruit and Vegetable Sample Cuttings, Fairmount Hotel, San Francisco

Jan. 19-20—National Preservers Association, Annual Meeting, Galt Ocean Mile Hotel, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Jan. 19-20—National Pickle Packers Association, Meeting, Kenilworth Hotel, Bal Harbor, Fla.

Jan. 21-24—NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION and Canning Machinery and Supplies Association, 55th Annual Conventions, Americana Hotel, Bal Harbour, Fla.

Feb. 11-13—Canadian Food Processors Association, Annual Convention, Bayshore Inn, Georgia and Cardero Sts., Vancouver, B. C.

March 18-20—Canners League of California, 58th Annual Meeting, Santa Barbara Biltmore, Santa Barbara

April 6-7—Mid-Atlantic Sales Conference, (New York, Pennsylvania and Tri-State associations), Shelburne Hotel, Atlantic City

May 13-16—Super Market Institute, Annual Convention, McCormick Place, Chicago

Mexican Farm Labor Program

A conference report on H.R. 2010, a bill to extend the Mexican farm labor program for two years, was filed on September 15 and adopted by the House on the following day.

The Senate on September 21 rejected a motion by Senator McCarthy (Minn.) to table the conference report, and agreed to resume debate the following day. Final action had not been taken as this issue went to press.

Deleted from the bill in conference was an amendment by Senator McCarthy (Minn.), adopted by the Senate on September 11, which would have required Mexican farmworkers to be paid at least 90 percent of the average state or national farm wage, whichever is the lesser.

The conferees also modified the bill's limitation on the use of Mexican farmworkers to operate or maintain power-driven machinery so that this restriction would apply only to power-driven, self-propelled harvesting, planting, or cultivating machinery.

No change was made in the provision of the bill which would prohibit the employment of Mexican farmworkers for other than temporary or seasonal employment, except in specific "hardship" cases approved by the Secretary of Labor.

Life's Civil Defense Feature

The article in the September 15 issue of *Life* on "How You Can Survive Fallout" gives considerable prominence to the essentiality of canned foods in emergency shelters.

Although dealing mainly with shelter ideas and construction, with food and provisioning secondary, canned foods appear prominently in three large shelter drawings, one large halftone, and two smaller halftones.

They are mentioned five times in the text of the article, and in two photo captions. The outstanding text statement constitutes a real endorsement: "All you really need is a 2-week stock of covered, non-perishable foods —canned foods are best—and a supply of water."

USDA Study on Government

Five forms of local government that best meet the combined needs of farm and city people are described in a USDA publication, *The Stake of Rural People in Metropolitan Government* (Misc. Pub. 869). Copies may be obtained from the Information Division, Agricultural Economics, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

Unified Defense Supply Agency Established in Defense Dept.

The Secretary of Defense has established within the Department a Defense Supply Agency "to manage, procure and distribute certain common supplies and related services." Lt. Gen. Andrew T. McNamara, former Quartermaster General of the Army, has been selected to head the new agency.

The new Defense Supply Agency will take over functions now performed by single managers in the fields of subsistence, clothing and textiles, traffic management, petroleum products, medical supplies, general supplies, industrial supplies, automotive supplies, and construction supplies. Management of additional common use items will be placed under the agency from time to time.

The Defense Department did not explain in its announcement how establishment of the new Defense Supply Agency might affect operation of the Military Subsistence Supply Agency, the single manager organization for subsistence.

As Director of the new Agency, General McNamara will report directly to the Secretary of Defense.

General McNamara was Quartermaster General of the Army in 1957. In that capacity he was responsible for general management of three single manager assignments, one of which was the MSSA.

Woodbury Award

The Woodbury Award for the outstanding scientific paper on development or improvement of crops grown for canning was presented recently to Dr. Robert C. Wiley and Dr. Arthur H. Thompson of the Department of Horticulture, University of Maryland, for work on apple slices.

The 1961 award was for their paper entitled, "Influence of Variety, Storage and Maturity on the Quality of Canned Apple Slices." The paper was published by the American Society for Horticultural Science (Vol. 75, pp. 61-84, 1960) and the award was presented August 29 at the annual banquet meeting of the A.S.H.S.

The award was established in 1949 by Dr. C. G. Woodbury, retired Director of the N.C.A. Raw Products Research Bureau, and is being continued by the N.C.A.

Weather Bureau Announces Agricultural Weather Service

New agricultural weather services will soon be provided in eight broad areas of the United States, through a $758,000 appropriation of the 87th Congress, the Department of Commerce Weather Bureau announced September 15.

Dr. F. W. Reichelderfer, Chief of the Weather Bureau, said that the new program will provide frequent and timely agricultural forecasts by means of a teletypewriter circuit covering each area. Local radio and television stations, as well as farm publications and newspapers, will be connected to the forecast office by the network. The forecasts will be designed to enable farmers to determine the best times for planting, spraying, harvesting, and other vital operations.

Besides three daily special agricultural weather forecasts and a daily "Farm Weather Summary," the teleprinter hookup will also give rapid dissemination of fire-weather forecasts and agricultural interpretations of the 5-day and 30-day weather outlooks, along with other information of value to agricultural interests.

The first stage of the program is scheduled to begin October 1, before the end of the crop season, in the Mississippi Delta area. A pilot project, operating since October, 1958, in the Delta, will be expanded to include southern and eastern Arkansas, western Tennessee, extreme southeastern Missouri, and northeastern Mississippi. The Mississippi Delta pilot project has already saved farmers in the area several million dollars in replanting and spraying costs, the Weather Bureau said.

By the spring of 1962, the program will be extended to seven additional areas: the lower Rio Grande Valley; an area covering southwest Georgia, southeast Alabama, and central northwest Florida; western lower Michigan; a region including northeastern West Virginia, western and central Maryland, south-central Pennsylvania, and northern Virginia; New Jersey; Oregon; and southern Idaho.

Networks of observation stations to be established by the Weather Bureau will report daily during the crop season to the forecasting centers, keeping the forecasters informed about weather in the immediate crop-growing areas, and providing data for crop-weather studies.

In localities where crops are dusted by airplanes, such as the Mississippi Delta, special agricultural aviation forecasts will be issued. This service will make it possible for pilots to avoid time-consuming individual briefing by weather forecasters over long-distance telephone when planning crop-dusting operations.

In preparation for the new program, the Weather Bureau will provide university training in agricultural meteorology for key personnel this fall. Also, a 3-week training course for other personnel in the program will be conducted later this year.

The Weather Bureau said that an important factor in the new service is the liaison it will require among farmers, agricultural scientists, extension workers, meteorologists, and weather forecasters. This close cooperation will enable forecasters to know what weather information is most important to farmers at any particular time. Agricultural specialists will become more familiar with detailed applications of meteorology. Through special training programs, farmers will learn how to use weather information to greatest advantage, and their suggestions will lead to improvements in the program.

Weather Bureau meteorologists will conduct technical studies in cooperation with specialists from the USDA to help increase basic knowledge of the effects of weather on farming and other agricultural activities. Practical applications of the results of these studies will be reported to farmers through joint information releases of the Bureau and Agricultural Experiment Stations, and agricultural extension work done by the states.

Minimum Wage Determination Under Walsh-Healey Act

The Secretary of Labor on September 22 issued a minimum wage determination of at least $1.15 an hour for all industries subject to the provisions of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act.

The determination will apply to contracts for which bids are invited, offers solicited or negotiations otherwise commenced on or after September 22, the announcement said.

Issuance of the order means that canners in the area of production, as well as other canners already subject to the statutory minimum wage of $1.15 an hour, will be obliged to pay all employees who engage in the performance of government contracts subject to the Walsh-Healey Act at least $1.15 an hour from the date of the award of the federal contract.

The Secretary's order makes final his proposal published in the *Federal Register* of August 8 (see INFORMATION LETTER of Aug. 12). No objections or statements contrary to the proposal were received, the Labor Department said.

Under existing policy, the determination will be enforced in the 50 states and the District of Columbia, but not in Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands. The Department said that a separate proceeding will be held with regard to policy there.

Text of the determination was scheduled for publication in the *Federal Register* of September 23.

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